

## More homes likely at Palmira in east Bonita Springs

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Written by  
Christina Cepero

The last vacant 21 acres in the Palmira community in east Bonita Springs will likely be developed with homes before stores and offices are built.

The zoning board voted 5-0 today to recommend approval of Palmira's request to build homes without first having to build 50,000 square feet of commercial space, as is stipulated in its zoning ordinance.

"We prefer that it's market-driven as opposed to something the organization is forced to do without the demand. Otherwise, we'd have more vacant commercial buildings," said Palmira managing partner Steve Hagenbuckle.

Although up to 276 units are permitted, Hagenbuckle said plans are to build 150-165 condos.

The community is located on Bonita Beach Road two miles east of I-75.

"We're very strongly supportive," said Meg Jacobson, who owns a home in the San Remo neighborhood of Palmira. "Right now that lot is an eyesore. ... We would love to have a residential community there."

The city's planning staff recommended approval.

The City Council will have the final say.